CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus, comprising:

means for receiving input text;

means for detecting an activator event in the input text; and

means for modifying a word in the input text in response to said detecting means detecting an activator event.

2. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said means for receiving input text including a keyboard.

3. An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the activator event includes actuation of a predetermined key of said keyboard.

4. An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the activator event includes actuation of an apostrophe key of said keyboard.

5. An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the activator event includes actuation of a predetermined key of said keyboard that follows actuation of another predetermined key of said keyboard.

6. An apparatus as claimed in claim 5, the predetermined key of said keyboard being at least one of an apostrophe key, a vowel key, a currency key, an accented letter key, and a punctuation key.

7. An apparatus as claimed in claim 5, the other predetermined key of said keyboard being at least one of an apostrophe key, a vowel key, a currency key, an accented letter key, and a punctuation key.

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8. An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the activator event includes actuation of an apostrophe key of said keyboard that follows actuation of a vowel key of said keyboard.

9. An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the activator event includes actuation of two vowel keys of said keyboard in succession.

10. An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the activator event includes actuation of a predetermined key of said keyboard for a predetermined duration.

11. An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the activator event includes actuation of a predetermined key of said keyboard for a predetermined duration subsequent to actuation of another predetermined key of said keyboard.

12. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, the activator event including an apostrophe input.

13. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said modifying means including means for selecting a modification of the word based on a rule of a language of the input text.

14. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means for normalizing the input text.

15. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means for detecting a subsequent activator event in the input text in succession from a first detected activator event.

16. An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein detection of a subsequent activator event by said subsequent activator event detecting means causes said modifying means to execute an additional modification of the word in the input text

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17. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means for detecting a duration of an activator event in the input text.

18. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means for displaying a list of alternative available modifications of the word.

19. An apparatus as claimed in claim 18, said displaying means displaying a list of alternative available modifications of the word in response to said detecting means detecting an activator event.

20. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means for displaying word modification information so that a user may select a desired word modification from the displayed word modification information.

21. An apparatus as claimed in claim 20, said displaying means displaying the word modification information in response to said detecting means detecting an activator event.

22. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means for allowing a user to further modify a word modification provided by said modifying means.

23. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means for allowing a user to further modify a word modification provided by said modifying means via a subsequent activator event caused by the user.

24. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein characters not included in a character set of the input text are encoded using the character set for the text input.

25. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein non-English characters are encoded using an English character set for the input text.

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26. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein characters not included in a 7-bit ASCII character set are encoded using a 7-bit ASCII character set for the text input.

27. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said detecting means detects an activator event based upon a context of the input text.

28. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activator event includes an apostrophe that succeeds a vowel in the text input.

29. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activator event includes two vowels appearing in succession in the text input.

30. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said modifying means provides one of several available word modifications of the word in response to at least one or more successive activator events in an open loop.

31. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said modifying means provides one of several available word modifications of the word in response to at least on or more successive activator events in a closed loop.

32. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said modifying means selects a modification of the word based upon a frequency of occurrence of available word modifications.

33. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said modifying means selects a modification of the word based upon grammar rules of a language of the input text.

34. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said modifying means selects a modification of the word based upon a rules list for word modifications.

35. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said modifying means selects a modification of the word based upon a rules list for word modifications, the rules list further comprising a fall back rule for the event in which the rules list do not provide a word modification.

36. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said modifying means selecting a modification of the word based upon a predetermined writing style of the input text.

37. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said modifying means selecting a modification based upon a previous word modification selected by a user.

38. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said modifying means detects a word in the text input in a language foreign to a language of the text input and applies a modification of the foreign language word based upon a rule of the foreign language.

39. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, the input text being in a first text context wherein said modifying means detects a word in the input text in a second text context and applies a modification of the detected word according to the second context.

40. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said modifying means providing optimal accenting of a word in the text input.

41. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said modifying means providing optimal punctuation of a word in the text input.

42. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said modifying means providing optimal accenting and punctuation of a word in the text input.

43. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, any one of said receiving means, said detecting means, and modifying means being implemented as a keyboard hook.

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44. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, the activator event including an accented vowel in the input text.

45. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, the activator event including a repeated character in the input text.

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46. A computer readable medium tangibly embodying computer readable code stored thereon for implementing a method for processing text, the method comprising:

receiving input text;

detecting an activator event in the input text; and

modifying a word in the input text in response to said detecting means detecting an activator event.

47. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, said receiving step including receiving input text with a keyboard.

48. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 47, wherein the activator event includes actuation of a predetermined key of the keyboard.

49. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 47, wherein the activator event includes actuation of an apostrophe key of the keyboard.

50. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 47, wherein the activator event includes actuation of a predetermined key of the keyboard that follows actuation of another predetermined key of the keyboard.

51. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 47, the predetermined key of the keyboard being at least one of an apostrophe key, a vowel key, a currency key, an accented letter key, and a punctuation key.

52. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 47, the other predetermined key of the keyboard being at least one of an apostrophe key, a vowel key, a currency key, an accented letter key, and a punctuation key.

53. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 47, wherein the activator event includes actuation of an apostrophe key of the keyboard that follows actuation of a vowel key of the keyboard.

54. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 47, wherein the activator event includes actuation of two vowel keys of the keyboard in succession.

55. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 47, wherein the activator event includes actuation of a predetermined key of the keyboard for a predetermined duration.

56. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 47, wherein the activator ‾ event includes actuation of a predetermined key of the keyboard for a predetermined duration subsequent to actuation of another predetermined key of the keyboard.

57. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, the activator event including an apostrophe input.

58. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, said modifying step including the step of selecting a modification of the word based on a rule of a language of the input text.

59. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, further comprising the step of normalizing the input text.

60. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, further comprising the step of detecting a subsequent activator event in the input text in succession from a first detected activator event.

61. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 60, wherein detection of a subsequent activator event by said subsequent activator event detecting step causes execution an additional modification of the word in the input text in said modifying step.

62. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, further comprising the step of detecting a duration of an activator event in the input text.

63. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, further comprising the step of displaying a list of alternative available modifications of the word.

64. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 63, said displaying step including displaying a list of alternative available modifications of the word in response to detection an activator event in said detecting step.

65. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, further comprising the step of displaying word modification information so that a user may select a desired word modification from the displayed word modification information.

66. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 65, wherein the word modification information is displayed in response to detection of an activator event in said detecting step.

67. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, further comprising the step of allowing a user to further modify a word modification provided in said modifying step.

68. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, further comprising the step of allowing a user to further modify a word modification provided in said modifying step via a subsequent activator event caused by the user.

69. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein characters not included in a character set of the input text are encoded using the character set for the text input.

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70. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein non-English characters are encoded using an English character set for the input text.

71. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein characters not included in a 7-bit ASCII character set are encoded using a 7-bit ASCII character set for the text input.

72. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein an activator event is detecting in said detecting step based upon a context of the input text.

73. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein the activator event includes an apostrophe that succeeds a vowel in the text input.

74. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein the activator event includes two vowels appearing in succession in the text input.

75. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein said modifying step includes providing one of several available word modifications of the word in response to at least one or more successive activator events in an open loop.

76. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein said modifying step includes providing one of several available word modifications of the word in response to at least on or more successive activator events in a closed loop.

77. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein said modifying step includes selecting a modification of the word based upon a frequency of occurrence of available word modifications.

78. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein said modifying step includes selecting a modification of the word based upon grammar rules of a language of the input text.

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79. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein said modifying step includes selecting a modification of the word based upon a rules list for word modifications.

80. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein said modifying step includes selecting a modification of the word based upon a rules list for word modifications, the rules list further comprising a fall back rule for the event in which the rules list do not provide a word modification.

81. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, said modifying step including selecting a modification of the word based upon a predetermined writing style of the input text.

82. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, said modifying step including selecting a modification based upon a previous word modification selected by a user.

83. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, wherein said modifying step includes detecting a word in the text input in a language foreign to a language of the text input and applying a modification of the foreign language word based upon a rule of the foreign language.

84. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, the input text being in a first text context wherein said modifying step includes detecting a word in the input text in a second text context and applying a modification of the detected word according to the second context.

85. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, said modifying step including providing optimal accenting of a word in the text input.

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86. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, said modifying step including providing optimal punctuation of a word in the text input.

87. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, said modifying step including providing optimal accenting and punctuation of a word in the text input.

88. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, any one of said receiving step, said detecting step, and said modifying step being implemented via a keyboard hook.

89. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, the activator event including an accented vowel in the input text.

90. A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 46, the activator event including a repeated character in the input text.

91. An apparatus, comprising:

means for receiving input text;

means for detecting an apostrophe in the input text;

means for initiating an input method editor loop in response to said detecting means detecting an apostrophe in the input text;

and means for modifying a word in the input text based upon a word modification contained in the input editor loop.

92. An apparatus as claimed in claim 91, wherein the input text is in Italian.

93. An apparatus as claimed in claim 91, the input method editor loop containing a hierarchy of word modifications in a predetermined hierarchy.

94. An apparatus as claimed in claim 93, said modifying means providing successive modifications of the word upon successive apostrophes detected by said detecting means.

95. An apparatus as claimed in claim 95, wherein the successive modifications provided by said modifying means are implemented according to a hierarchy of word modifications in the input method editor loop.

96. An apparatus as claimed in claim 91, wherein the input method editor loop is a closed loop.

97. An apparatus as claimed in claim 91, wherein the input method editor loop includes a hierarchy of word modifications in an order determined by Italian language rules.

98. An apparatus as claimed in claim 91, wherein the input method editor loop includes a hierarchy of word modifications in an order determined by Italian language rules and frequency of word modifications in the loop.

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99. An apparatus as claimed in claim 91, further comprising means for displaying the input method editor loop.

100. An apparatus as claimed in claim 91, said modifying means modifying the word to provide an optimally accented form of the word without requiring a user to select an accented form of the word.

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